

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner having an interview with Applicants to discuss the present application. During the interview, it was agreed that the cited reference as discussed below did not disclose or suggest the feature of the amended claim language.

More specifically, in the Office Action, the Examiner has the following rejections under 35 USC §102 and §103:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claims 46, 47, 59 and 65 are rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Kadota et al. (US 5,818,550).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103:

- A. Claims 48-55, 60, 61, 66 and 67 are rejected as being unpatenable over Kadota et al. and further in view of Seo (US 6,323,521).
- B. Claims 56, 62, 71 and 74 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadota in view of Ha (US 5,677,207)
- C. Claims 57, 58, 63, 64, 72, 73, 75 and 76 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in view of Seo and further in view of Ha.
- D. Claims 77, 78 and 86 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in further in view of Matsumoto (US 5,323,042).
- E. Claims 79-82, 87 and 88 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in view of Seo and further in view of Matsumoto.
- F. Claim 68 is rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in further in view of Mikoshiba (US 5,499,123).
- G. Claims 69 and 70 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in view of Seo and further in view of Mikoshiba.
- H. Claim 83 is rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in view of Ha and further in view of Matsumoto.
- I. Claims 84 and 85 are rejected as being unpatentable over Kadoata et al. in view of Seo in view of Ha and further in view of Matsumoto.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

In particular, all of the pending independent claims are rejected over Kadota et al. either alone or in view of one or more of Seo, Ha, Matsumoto, and Mikoshiba. While each of these rejections is traversed, in order to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended independent Claims 46-48, 52, 56-61 to state that the color filter covers the entire thin film transistor, and have canceled Claims 50-51 and 54-55.

Kadota does not disclose or suggest a color filter covering the entire TFT. It is clear from Fig. 1 and the description in the reference that the TFT in Kadota includes a semiconductor thin film 2 and a gate electrode 3 (see "TFT" arrow in Fig. 1 and e.g. col. 3, lns. 49-50; 62-66). Kadota also makes it clear that the color filter 9 is divided into segments 9R, 9G and 9B (see e.g. col. 3, lns. 56-57; col. 4, lns. 29-30). As the Examiner agreed during the interview, none of these segments cover the entire "TFT" identified in Fig. 1 (i.e. semiconductor thin film 2 and gate electrode 3). At most, the color filters in Kadota may cover some small portion of the TFT, though Applicants do not admit that it covers any portion of the TFT. As the Examiner agreed, this is in contrast to the present invention, as shown for example in Fig. 28A of the present application, wherein the color filter covers the entire TFT.¹

Further, none of the other cited references disclose this feature.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, the claims of the present application are patentable over the cited references. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that each of these rejections now be withdrawn.

¹ It is noted that in Fig. 28A, there is an opening in the color filter through which the pixel electrode is connected to the conductive layer or the TFT. As the Examiner agreed, the claim language herein that the color filter covers the entire first thin film transistor reads on this structure of Fig. 28A.

New Claims

Applicants are also adding new Claims 89-118. Each of these is a dependent claim, and as the Examiner agreed, each are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above for the independent claims.

If any fee is due for these claims, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in a condition for allowance, and it is requested that it be allowed.

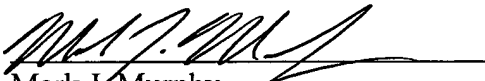
If any further fee is due for this amendment, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, LTD.
200 West Adams Street; Suite 2850
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 236-8500


Mark J. Murphy
Registration No. 34,225